

GRANGE-OVER-SANDS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of
Grange-over-Sands.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR1947

Mr.Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual
 Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1947.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,884.
Population ...	...	...	...	...	...	2,640
Number of inhabited houses ...	...	...	...	...	...	859
Rateable Value ...	...	...	...	...	...	£28,767.
Amount produced by a penny rate ...	...	...	...	...	...	£116.

VITAL STATISTICS.Births.

Twenty eight births, 15 male and 13 female,
 were registered during the year. The birth rate of 10.6 compared
 with a rate of 7.5 per 1,000 in 1946. There were three illegitimate
 births. There were no stillbirths during the year.

Deaths.

Fourty eight deaths, 27 male and 21 female,
 were registered during the year. The death rate of 18.1 compared
 with a rate of 15.1 in 1946.

Infantile Mortality.

No deaths of infants under 1 year of age
 occurred.

Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age.

Nil.

Maternal Mortality.

Nil.

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CAUSES OF DEATH.

The table below shows the causes of death of Grange residents in 1947.

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. Typhoid and Para-typhoid.	-	-	-
2. Measles	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-	-
6. Influenza	1	-	1
7. Encephalitis lethargica	-	-	-
8. Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	-	-	-
10. Other tuberculosis diseases	-	-	-
11. Syphilis	-	-	-
12. General Paralysis of the Insane	-	-	-
13. Cancer, malignant disease	4	3	7
14. Diabetes	2	1	3
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage	5	6	11
16. Heart Disease	11	8	19
17. Aneurysm	-	-	-
18. Other circulatory diseases	-	-	-
19. Bronchitis	-	-	-
20. Pneumonia	2	-	2
21. Other respiratory diseases	-	-	-
22. Peptic Ulcer	1	-	1
23. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (over 2 years of age)	-	-	-
24. Appendicitis	-	-	-
25. Cirrhosis of liver	-	-	-
26. Other diseases of liver	-	-	-
27. Other digestive diseases	-	-	-
28. Acute and Chronic nephritis	-	2	2
29. Puerperal sepsis	-	-	-
30. Other puerperal causes	-	-	-
31. Congenital debility, malformation etc.	-	-	-
32. Senility	1	-	1
33. Suicide	-	1	1
34. Other violence	-	-	-
35. Other defined diseases	-	-	-
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	-	-	-
	<u>27</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>48</u>

The principle causes of death of Grange-over-Sands residents as shown by the above table were:- Heart Disease (19), Cerebral Arterial Diseases (11), Cancer (7).

No deaths occurred from Tuberculosis.

CANCER

Brief particulars of the 7 deaths from this disease are shown below.

<u>Site.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Colon	2	-	2
Stomach	1	-	1
Rectum	-	1	1
Pancreas	-	1	1
Splenic Flexure	1	-	1
Caecum	-	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>

The table below shows comparisons between birth and death rates in England and Wales, 148 smaller towns and this district.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>England and Wales.</u>		<u>148 smaller towns.</u>		<u>Grange-over-Sands Urban</u>	
	<u>Births.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Births.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Births.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
1944	17.6	11.6	20.9	12.4	8.3	16.3
1945	16.1	11.4	19.2	12.3	6.9	15.4
1946	19.1	11.5	21.3	11.7	7.5	15.1
1947	20.5	12.0	22.2	11.9	10.6	18.1

Although rises in birth and death rates occurred in 1947 the birth rate was still much lower and the death rate higher than in the country generally. There is, however, a high proportion of old persons and a very low proportion of young persons in the population. There was nothing unusual in the causes of death.

Age Distribution of Deaths in 1947 is shown below.

-1	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	65-	70-	75-	80-	85-	90-	Total.
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	8	5	17	7	3	3	48

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Personnel.

Medical Officer of Health:- A.Dodd, M.D.,Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Other Appointments Held: Assistant County Medical Officer -
Lancashire County Council,
Medical Officer of Health - Ulverston
Combined Sanitary District.
Medical Officer - Ulverston Joint
Hospital Board.

Sanitary Inspector:- A.W.Charity, F.I.S.E., F.F.A.S.,
R.S.I. Sanitary Inspector's
Certificate, Meat and Other
Foods Certificate.

Other Appointments Held:- Surveyor - Grange Urban District Council.
Water Engineer-Grange Urban District
Council.

Hospital Services.

No major change occurred during the year in the hospital services of the district.

Ambulance Facilities.

A motor ambulance for accidents and non-infectious illnesses is provided by the Urban District. In addition to this an ambulance is maintained by the Ulverston Joint Hospital Board for conveying patients suffering from Infectious Diseases to High Carley Isolation Hospital. There are reciprocal arrangements for help in case of need with the Ulverston Joint Ambulance Committee.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Ministry of Health Emergency Medical Service Laboratory at High Carley.

Chemical analyses, as required, are sent to the City Laboratories, Liverpool.

Maternal and Child Welfare, School Medical, Dental and Health Visiting Services, Ulverston Combined Sanitary District.

These services are provided by the Lancashire County Council. Routine Child Welfare Clinics, Minor Ailments Clinics Dental Clinics and School Medical and Dental inspections are undertaken by Assistant County Medical and Dental Officers with Health Visitors and School Nurses. An Ophthalmic Surgeon, Obstetrician and Orthopaedic Specialist attend the appropriate eye, ante-natal, post natal and orthopaedic clinics in Ulverston and Dalton-in-Furness. In addition the obstetrician visits the Grange Clinic fortnightly.

The times and places where County Council Clinics are held are shewn below. County District Immunisation Clinics are also given.

<u>Grange</u>	-	Congregational Sunday School, Kents Bank Road.
		2nd and 4th Friday each month, a.m. Antenatal Clinic. Tuesday fortnightly, p.m. Child Welfare Centre.
	-	Council Offices.
		1st Tuesday each month, 2 p.m. Immunisation Clinic.
<u>Coniston</u>	-	Church Rooms, Yewdale Road.
		1st Friday each month, p.m. Child Welfare Centre.
<u>Ulverston.</u>	-	Brogden Street.
Monday.	a.m.	Minor Ailments Redressing Clinic. Dental Clinic.
	p.m.	Antenatal Clinic. Dental Clinic.
Tuesday.	a.m.	Dental Clinic
	p.m.	Dental Clinic. Orthopaedic Clinic every two months.
Wednesday.	a.m.	Minor Ailments and Inspection Clinics.
	p.m.	Child Welfare Centre.
Thursday.	a.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic
	p.m.	Dental Clinic.
Friday.	a.m.	Nil.
	p.m.	Immunisation, 1st Friday every month, 2 p.m.
<u>Dalton</u>	-	Dowdales Clinic.
Monday.	a.m.	Nil.
	p.m.	Immunisation, 1st Monday every month 2 p.m.
Tuesday.	a.m.	Minor Ailments Redressing Clinic.
	p.m.	Nil.
Wednesday.	a.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic.
	p.m.	Antenatal Clinic.

Thursday. a.m. Minor Ailments and Inspection Clinic.
p.m. Child Welfare Centre.
Friday a.m. Dental Clinic.
p.m. Dental Clinic.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supplies.

Grange is supplied with upland surface water from an open moorland gathering ground. The ground is sheep grazed but not cultivated. The water is collected in two reservoirs at Newton, the capacities of which are 23,000,000 and 10,550,000 gallons respectively. After filtration and chlorination the water passes to a storage tank of 140,000 gallons capacity and thence to the trunk mains for distribution. There are three service reservoirs in Grange, at Windermere Road (150,000 gallons), Hampsfell (200,000 gallons) and Wartbarrow (200,000 gallons), which serve as reservoirs in case of interruption in trunk mains also for equalising demand in the distribution mains.

During the year the storage in the reservoirs reached a very low level, nevertheless supplies were maintained throughout the district.

A new 9 inch diameter water main was laid from the Water works to High Newton village, thus completing the work of laying a new trunk main commenced by Mr. Huddleston in 1937. New 3 inch and 4 inch water mains were laid for the Council's new housing scheme in Fell Close.

The water was subject to chemical analysis, two samples being submitted, on the 11th April, 1947, and to 4 bacteriological examinations on the 26th March, 1947, and 2 on the 10th November, 1947.

The report of a typical chemical analysis is as follows:-
"I have analysed the sample of water received on the 11th April, 1947, with the following results expressed in parts per 100,000:-

Mark and denomination of sample	"No. 1".
Total solid matter in solution	6.00
Oxygen required to oxidise in 15 mins.	0.068
" " " " 3 hours	0.131.
Ammonia	0.001.
Ammonia from Organic matter by distillation with alkaline permanganate	0.005.
Nitrogen as Nitrates.	None
Nitrogen as Nitrates	None.
Combined Chlorine	0.95
Total Hardness	2.0.

The sample was clear, faintly yellow and odourless. It contained only a minute trace of suspended matter, which consisted of vegetable debris, hydrated oxide of iron with iron organisms, and particles of siliceous matter.

Observations.

Reaction to Litmus. Faintly alkaline.
pH value 8.2.

The water is a good soft upland surface water, well suited for drinking and all domestic purposes. It does not contain anything which is likely to cause symptoms of gastro-enteritis.

The bacteriological examinations were all satisfactory, no faecal coli being found.

Housing.

During the year the block of four flats in Westcliffe Gardens and the four houses in Fell Drive were completed.

Also the erection of the 28 houses on the Fell Drive Site was started.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There were 10 registered cow keepers and 6 dairymen within the district. The samples of milk submitted for examination were satisfactory.

Renewals to the roof of shippons at one farm have been carried out.

Public Cleansing.

The removal of house refuse is undertaken by the Council and dealt with at the incinerator. The following salvage was obtained and disposed of for use.

Materials.	Weight.	Income.
Waste Paper.	23 tons. 2 cwts. 2 qrs.	£146. 15. 2.
Scrap Metal	/	3. 10. 6.
Tins	31 tons. 3 cwts.	60. 4. 11.
Rags	/	1. 11. 0.
Bottles	/	1. 16. 6.
		<hr/>
		£213. 18. 1.

Sewage and Drainage.

The sewerage system worked satisfactorily. Rainwater and sewage are dealt with on the combined system. No complaints were received during the year.

Meat and Food.

Meat supplied to the district comes through the Central Slaughterhouse at Ulverston.

During 1947 the following foodstuffs were condemned on being found unfit for human consumption.

11 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Imported Bacon.
7 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs Ham.
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ stones Cod fillet.
2 - 26 lb. Crates Tomatoes.
2 - 12 lb. Baskets Tomatoes.
63 - 1 lb. Jars red pickled cabbage.
14 packets of cheese.
24 $\frac{1}{2}$ lns. sugar.
1 - 7 lb. tin of pressed beef.

Other Sanitary Matters.

Provision of dustbin	19.
Defective roofs	5
Dampness to walls	1
Rat Nuisances Abated	7
Drains	4
Defective Grates	4
Pigsty	1
New Sinks	3
Defective Walls	1
Defective Floor	1
Defective window frame	1
Defective W.C.	2

Rainfall.

January	4.72	July	4.70
February	0.25	August.	1.28
March	4.92	September.	4.89
April	4.62	October	1.08
May	4.03	Nov.	7.68
June	3.76.	December	2.98.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>First</u> <u>Quarter</u>	<u>Second</u> <u>Quarter.</u>	<u>Third</u> <u>Quarter.</u>	<u>Fourth</u> <u>Quarter</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1933	12.01	7.91	8.42	8.90	56.95
1934	10.86	13.20	14.89	16.57	55.52
1935	10.63	12.54	17.21	18.80	59.18
1936	12.12	6.94	15.94	18.43	53.43
1937	12.69	9.39	11.47	8.59	42.14
1938	11.21	11.33	15.88	24.05	62.47
1939	13.17	8.20	13.62	13.19	48.18
1940	9.16	5.35	12.54	17.61	44.66
1941	9.68	6.69	9.78	13.93	40.08
1942	8.12	7.89	17.08	14.50	47.59
1943	12.55	12.36	19.72	13.20	57.93
1944	8.61	10.90	16.22	20.33	56.06
1945	13.22	10.80	10.20	10.39	44.71
1946	12.97	8.72	20.12	16.83	58.64
1947	9.89	12.41	9.87	11.74	43.91

15 years.

<u>Average.</u>	11.12	9.64	14.13	15.16	50.05
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PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the numbers of cases of the notifiable infectious diseases, after correction, which occurred in the Urban District during the five years 1942-1946 compared with the numbers in 1947.

Disease.						1947		
						Number of cases.	Removed to hospital.	Number of Deaths.
	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946			
Scarlet Fever	11	2	8	2	1	-	-	-
Measles	14	13	23	82	-	6	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	30	4	6	-	-	-
Pneumonia	3	5	2	-	1	3	-	-
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia.	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery	-	13	-	3	2	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
TOTALS	30	33	64	91	11	11	1	1

The incidence of infectious disease generally was low in 1947. A single case of Cerebro-spinal fever occurred, in a visitor to the district. This was a woman aged 47 who died in hospital.

A short report on the incidence of Poliomyelitis in 1947 in the Ulverston Combined Sanitary District follows:-

Poliomyelitis/Polioencephalitis in the Ulverston Combined Sanitary District.

In 1947 17 cases of Poliomyelitis or Polioencephalitis were notified in the Ulverston Combined Sanitary District. Eight of the patients lived in the Ulverston Rural District, 7 in the Ulverston Urban District, 1 in the Dalton-in-Furness Urban District and one in the Grange-overSands Urban District. The fact that only one case occurred in Dalton is notable in view of the incidence during the year in the Ulverston Urban and Rural Districts as well as in the County Borough of Barrow-in-Furness. This single case occurred at a farm in a Rural part of Dalton-in-Furness.

More detailed enquiry into these cases from an epidemiological aspect was made than has been customary in ordinary infectious diseases. Information was given and the respective forms completed in connection with the Poliomyelitis/Polioencephalitis Surveys of the Medical Research Council, the Lancashire County Council and the Hospital Survey of the Ministry of Health.

The table below shows the age, sex, date of onset, results of infection and the district in which the patient resides.

<u>Case No.</u>	<u>Age.</u>	<u>Sex.</u>	<u>Date of Onset.</u>	<u>Result.</u>	<u>District.</u>
1	29	M	3. 4. 1947	DIED	Ulverston.
2	33	F	25. 3. 1947	Recovered	Barsea.
3	11	M	2. 5. 1947	DIED	Lowick Green
4	3	F	7. 5. 1947	Recovered	Ulverston.
5	1	M	31. 5. 1947	Recovered	High Newton.
6	29	F	18. 5. 1947	Recovered	Sparkbridge.
7	34	M	17. 6. 1947	Recovered	Ulverston.
8	49	F	18. 6. 1947	Recovered	Finsthwaite.
9	33	M	27. 6. 1947	Recovered	Ulverston.
10	34	F	2. 7. 1947	Recovered	Ulverston
11	33	F	1. 7. 1947	Recovered	Ulverston
12	12	M	1. 7. 1947	Recovered	Backbarrow.
13	3	M	27. 7. 1947	Recovered	Askam
14	13	M	? 7. 1947	Recovered	Grange
15	29	M	17. 9. 1947	Recovered	Barsea.
16	2	F	19.10. 1947	DIED	Ulverston.
17	6	M	26.11. 1947	Recovered	Swarthmoor.

It will be observed from the above table that three deaths occurred giving a case mortality of 17.6%. Two of these three deaths were of children. Fourteen cases recovered although some had residual paralysis or weakness. Only 8 cases occurred in children representing 47% of the total. Six of these were male and 2 female. Nine cases occurred in adults representing 53% of the total. Four of these were male and 5 female. The youngest adults affected were 29 years of age. A woman aged 29 was pregnant. She recovered and subsequently had a normal confinement.

The cases in the Rural District of Ulverston were scattered, no 2 cases occurring near to one another with the exception of 2 at Bardsea but the dates of onset of these cases were respectively the 25th March and the 17th September, 1947. Of the cases in the Urban District of Ulverston no two occurred in the same street although cases occurred in streets which were near to one another. In the district as a whole no 2 cases occurred in any family and no 2 cases occurred in any school. There was no recent history of tonsillectomy in any of these cases. No connection was traced between any two cases or contacts and despite enquiry no evidence was obtained suggesting spread by milk or foodstuffs or by faecal contamination.

There is some evidence that abortive cases occurred in one part of the Rural District. I was told by a General Practitioner some time after the occurrence that the people in the district had had peculiar cold catarrh symptoms with eye signs such as diplopia. So far as I am aware all these cases recovered.

All known cases of Poliomyelitis/Polioencephalitis were removed to the High Carley Isolation Hospital excepting a boy from a private school in Grange who had returned home from school out of the district, where the diagnosis was made.

The cases were classified for the survey of the Medical Research Council as follows:-

Non-paralytic - mainly spinal	1
Paralytic	12
Non-paralytic - mainly cerebral	1
Presumptive - mainly cerebral	1
Not Polio (diagnosis indefinite)	2

The Ulverston Joint Hospital Board was not happy about the availability of a mechanical respirator at the time when cases were prevalent in the County Borough of Barrow-in-Furness and in the

Ulverston Combined Sanitary District and considered purchasing a respirator. In view, however, of information received suggesting that it would probably be contrary to future policy to encourage the admission of Poliomyelitis cases to a small hospital such as the High Carley Isolation Hospital the Joint Board did not proceed to the ordering or purchasing of a respirator.

Gastro-enteritis.

An effort was made during 1947 in collaboration with local General Medical Practitioners and the hotels in Grange to investigate the cause of Gastro-enteritis which had been prevalent in the district in 1946. The incidence of the disease, however, in 1947 was very low. In only a few cases was it possible to obtain specimens for bacteriological examination. These specimens in each case were reported to be negative for pathogenic organisms. In one of these specimens a bacteria free filtrate was obtained. This filtrate was ingested by mouth and sprayed into the nasopharynx of volunteers without effect.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During 1947 twenty five children completed a full course of immunisation, namely 17 under 5 years of age and 8 between the ages of 5 and 15. In addition 15 children had booster doses to maintain resistance to the disease.

At the end of the year it was estimated that 31% of children under 5 years of age and 36% of children between the ages of 5 and 15 in Grange had been immunised under the Local Authorities Scheme.

Tuberculosis.

Two fresh cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. No deaths from tuberculosis were reported.

Conclusion.

In conclusion I thank the members of the Health Committee, and the officers of the Grange-over-Sands Urban District Council for courtesy and help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. DODD.

Medical Officer of Health.

